

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: JEONG, Seung Hoon

SERIAL NO.: 10/575,351

ART UNIT: 1797

FILED: April 11, 2006

EXAMINER: Savage, M. O.

TITLE: AUTO-REGENERABLE HOT AND COLD WATER SOFTENER

Amendment A: REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendments, previous Claims 1 - 14 have been canceled and new Claims 15 - 24 substituted therefor. Reconsideration of the rejections, in light of the forgoing amendments and present remarks, is respectfully requested. The present amendments have been entered for the purpose of placing the claim language into a more proper U.S. format.

In the Office Action, it was indicated that Claims 1 - 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Additionally, the previous election was objected to. The drawings were also rejected to because reference numerals mentioned in the specification could not be found in the drawings. Additionally, the drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a) since the “agitating means” is not shown in the drawings. Importantly, it is indicated that Claims 1 - 9 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the formality objections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

In reply to the Official Action, Applicant has presented previous Claims 1 - 9 in the form of new Claims 15 - 24. New Claims 15 - 24 expresses the original limitations but express these limitations in a more U.S. format, including proper antecedent bases and proper structural interrelationships throughout. Any indefinite terminology found in the original claim language has

been corrected herein. In particular, where functional language is utilized proper “means-plus-function” terminology is provided in the new claims.

New independent Claim 15 corresponds to the limitations of previous independent Claim 1. New dependent Claims 16 and 17 correspond to the alternate recitations found in previous dependent Claim 2. Dependent Claims 18 - 24 correspond, respectively, to the limitations found in previous dependent Claims 3 - 9. Previous Claims 10 - 14 have been canceled herein in view of the Examiner’s objections to the previous election requirements.

Relative to the “agitating means” that is not shown in the drawing, Applicant has canceled this recitation from previous dependent Claim 9 (now dependent Claim 24).

Applicant has revised the specification so as to utilize proper reference numerals in paragraph [0092].

Based upon the foregoing analysis, Applicant contends that independent Claim 15 is now in proper condition for allowance. Additionally, those claims which are dependent upon independent Claim 15 should also be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the claims at an early date is earnestly solicited. Since no new claims have been added above those originally paid for, no additional fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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